## Savings Account or Checking Account?

	PROS	CONS
Savings Account	<ul> <li>Safe place to put your money</li> <li>Don't need a lot of money to open an account</li> <li>Money earns interest when it's in the account.</li> <li>Can withdraw your money when you need it.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>You must go to the bank to withdraw money.</li> <li>You cannot write checks.</li> </ul>
Checking Account	<ul> <li>Safe place to put your money</li> <li>Can write checks which helps track your spending.</li> <li>Can withdraw your money when you need it.</li> <li>A safe alternative to carrying a lot of cash.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Money may not earn interest.</li> <li>May need to pay fees for checking.</li> </ul>

## Questions to ask banks when you want to open a SAVINGS ACCOUNT:

- 1. Are there different savings account options? What are they?
- 2. How much money do you need to open a savings account?
- 3. What is the interest rate on the savings account?
- 4. Are there any fees or service charges for the account?
- 5. What is the process for depositing and withdrawing money?
- 6. Can I use an ATM?
- 7. What are the banks hours?
- 8. Where are bank branches located (is there one near you?)
- 9. Who should I contact at the bank if I have questions about my account? What is the phone number?

## Questions to ask banks when you want to open a CHECKING ACCOUNT:

- 1. Are there different checking account options? What are they?
- 2. How much money do you need to open a checking account?
- 3. Is there a checking account that does not have checking fees? What are the requirements? What are the penalties if I open this account and later do not meet the requirements?
- 4. What is the lowest price for the checks?
- 5. How long do I need to wait after I make a deposit before I can write checks?
- 6. What happens if I over-draw (write a check for more than I have in the bank) the account?
- 7. Can I use an ATM?
- 8. What are the bank hours?
- 9. Where are bank branches located (is there one near you?)
- 10. Who should I contact at the bank if I have questions about my account? What is the phone number?